

- 2) the Petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(m);
- 3) a statement (under 37 CFR §1.137(b)(3)) that the delay in filing of the response was unintentional;

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification to add page 12 containing an "ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE" as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A formulation for use as a treating agent in the Bayer process is disclosed. The formulation comprises a blend of 200-300 ppm of starch and up to 10 ppm of another polysaccharide. When added to a liquor derived from the digestion of bauxite ore in a caustic solution to extract alumina, the formulation may result in increased filterability of the liquor. The formulation may also be used in conjunction with a filter aid in the filtration of a caustic sodium aluminate solution.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 7.

Please amend claims 1 and 8 to read as follows:

- C1 1. (Amended) A treating agent for use in the Bayer process in filtration of caustic sodium alumina solution, said treating agent comprising:
a blend of 200-300 ppm of starch and up to 10 ppm of another polysaccharide.
- C2 8. (Amended) The treating agent of claim [7] 1 comprising up to 5 ppm polysaccharide.

Remarks

Claims 1-9 are currently pending.

In the Office Action mailed on April 10, 2001, the Examiner required filing of an Abstract of the Disclosure, rejected claims 1-9 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by